

BLAZES BREAK FORTH

SEVEN OF THEM IN FOUR HOURS IN KANSAS CITY.

KINDLED BY FIREBUGS

IN THE VERY HEART OF THE BUSINESS DISTRICT.

FIVE-STORY SCARRITT BLOCK GOES

WORTH SIXTY THOUSAND DOLLARS, THE PRINCIPAL LOSS.

Scarcely Can One Be Extinguished Until There Is a Call to Another - Second Epidemic of Incendiarism.

Kansas City, Mo., April 15.-Since 9 o'clock last night, Kansas City seems to have been at the mercy of a band of incendiaries. Between 9 o'clock last night and 1 o'clock this (Thursday) morning, seven fires broke out in the very business center of the city. At least four, and probably all, of these fires were of incendiary origin. While the majority of the blazes were extinguished in their incipient stages, two of them resulted in heavy damage. The big five-story Scarritt block, on Walnut street, near Ninth, was destroyed, entailing a loss of \$60,000, and from this structure the flames spread to an adjoining structure on Main street, also owned by the Scarritt estate, and occupied by the Campbell & Eaton Crockery company. The building on Main street was damaged to the extent of \$10,000, and the crockery stock suffered an equal damage. Only by a very narrow margin were other adjoining buildings saved from destruction.

It was while this dangerous fire was raging that the torch was applied in various other parts of the business district. At Twelfth and Walnut streets fire was started in a pile of dry goods boxes in an alley. At Twelfth street and Grand avenue the torch was applied to a building, and the fire spread to a building on Grand avenue. At Fifth and Delaware another fire was started in the rear of the Armour building. Another fire was started near the Loose Bros. cracker manufactory at Second and Main streets, and still another at Helm's brewery on the east bottom. In several of these fires coal oil was freely used by the incendiaries.

At 1 o'clock this morning, when the forces of the fire department were scattered, and possibly somewhat demoralized, fire was discovered in G. W. Lovejoy's planing mill, at Fourteenth and Main streets. The fire had gained much headway that the building was soon enveloped in flames, and within a short time the planing mill, with all its valuable machinery and a big stock of manufactured lumber, was in ruins. The loss is heavy. That this fire and the fire in the Scarritt block were of incendiary origin there is no direct proof, but all the indications are that firebugs alone are responsible.

Nor are the fires of tonight the first of the kind recently. About two weeks ago three fires were started within two days at Twelfth and Walnut streets, but all were extinguished without serious loss. The loss on Lovejoy's planing mill and machinery is \$10,000. On his stock the loss is \$7,000 additional.

What could be the motives of the incendiaries is purely a matter of speculation, but among the excited business men who are gathered about the streets in small groups at 2 o'clock this morning, seriously discussing the situation, the opinion is frequently expressed that the gambler element, which has so long held full sway in Kansas City, and which is now forced to quit its operations owing to a complete overhauling of the police administration, is at the bottom of the incendiaries.

Kansas City, Mo., April 14.-The Scarritt block, a substantial five-story brick building on Walnut street, near Ninth, and directly across the street from the Central station of the Kansas City fire department, was destroyed by fire this evening. The fire was not discovered until the flames burst through the windows in the third story, spreading a glare over the whole street. Though the firemen had but to turn their apparatus into the street they seemed able to do nothing to combat the flames, as they could throw no water into the third story where the flames were, and to get pressure they were obliged to wait some minutes for steam. By that time the fire was beyond control, and was threatening an entire block in the very heart of the city. The big six-story Hall building, extending south on Walnut street to Ninth, in which are the Times and World newspapers, several stores and many offices, seemed in great danger, as it was soon on fire in the upper story adjoining the Scarritt block.

The electric wires soon went down and everybody left the building. The fire burned fiercely from 9 o'clock until 10:20 o'clock, by which hour nothing but the walls remained of the Scarritt block. The loss on the building is \$60,000; insurance, \$30,000. The building was unoccupied, a pure food show having just been held there. The damage in the Hall building is not great. The mechanical department of the Times was shut down for nearly two hours, but the paper suffered no material damage. The offices of the World were flooded, but the paper will be published tomorrow as usual. The building occupied by the Campbell-Eaton company, which is also owned by the Scarritt estate, is damaged to the extent of probably \$10,000, and the loss to Campbell & Eaton's stock is probably \$10,000 more. Not until midnight was the fire in this building under control. It was thought that the fire was the work of an incendiary and that an attempt was made to start a general conflagration, though for what purpose no one seems willing to hazard a guess. While the fire was in progress six other alarms were turned in. The first was for a fire near Helm's brewery, on the east bottom, and following this in quick succession five other alarms were turned in. All were for fires in the business part of the city. One fire, near Twelfth and Walnut streets, was kindled in an

TWO WIRES WORKED

ONE FROM ST. PETERSBURG AND ONE FROM BERLIN.

These Lead Into the Sultan's Palace and

Whatever Czar and Kaiser Say About

Invading Greece Will Be Pretty Likely

Go - At Vienna the Best Informed

Diplomats Regard War as Inevitable - Turkey Thinks Less of the Concert

Every Day - Operations Upon the Border - Cretans Hold Out for Annexation.

London, April 14.-The Athens correspondent of the Standard says it is stated there that the Russian ambassador at Constantinople has addressed a circular to the Russian consuls in Epirus and Macedonia, counselling all Christians in the name of the czar to maintain prudence and to disregard investigations hazardous to their welfare. The circular adds: "The consuls are ordered to use every effort to influence the Greek bishops to assist in maintaining order and preserving Christians from evil counsels."

The Constantinople correspondent of the Standard will say tomorrow: "During the cabinet council at the palace on Sunday the sultan was in constant communication with the czar and the kaiser. His ultimate decision will depend upon their advice, which many well-informed people here believe will be in favor of the Turkish invasion of Greece. There can be no question that the policy of Turkey will be regulated from St. Petersburg and Berlin."

WAR INEVITABLE.

Vienna, April 14.-The best informed diplomats here regard war as inevitable. They say the strain cannot much longer be borne by either Turkey or Greece and that the time has passed for the powers to attempt to intervene. In view of the dangerous position assumed by Greece in the question of Crete, which she does not count upon some power coming to her support at the crucial moment. The situation is regarded here as analogous to the time when Serbia attacked Turkey in 1876, when Russia and Great Britain saved Serbia from annihilation.

POWERS' LOSS OF CASTLE.

London, April 14.-A dispatch to the Times from Constantinople says it is evident from the Porte's language to the powers, which remains courteous and plausible, but is tinged with a perceptible scorn, that the concert of the powers is not regarded there with the consideration paid to it prior to the warring policy of Europe in dealing with Greece.

The Vienna correspondent of the Times says that one of the least favorable consequences of the course of action taken by the powers is that it has not only failed to overawe the Greeks, but there are unmistakable signs that it has diminished the prestige of the European concert.

DEBATE IN THE BOULE.

Athens, April 14.-On the reassembly of the Boule today, M. Delanais, the premier, introduced, in the presence of a crowded chamber, a bill granting the government a credit of 23,000,000 drachmas for the ministers of war and marine.

The premier asked the house to expedite the passage of the budget. Dealing with the development of the foreign situation, he declared that the powers had taken their stand on the principle of the integrity of Turkey, but up to the present had not expressed an opinion with regard to the proposals Greece had made for a peaceful solution of the difficulty. After dwelling upon the right of the Cretans to settle their own destiny, he declared that, despite all which had happened, Greece still hoped the powers would agree to a peaceful settlement. The situation on the frontier was not, he said, created by Greece but by the strange policy of a state which by precipitate armament had compelled Greece to assemble an army capable of coping with all eventualities and of defending the interests and honor of the country (Serbia). In concluding, M. Delanais said that the Greek government was doing its utmost to repair the imperfections inseparable from an army so hastily collected, and he hoped that in the course of a few days an army would be concentrated abundantly capable of doing its full duty to the country. (Loud cheers.)

Deputy Ralli, the leader of the opposition, thought that in view of the existing circumstances the time was not propitious to commence a debate upon the budget.

M. Delanais agreed with this suggestion, and said that tomorrow he would submit a vote on account for three months.

The chamber then adjourned.

KING GEORGE MOURNS.

London, April 14.-The Daily Chronicle will publish tomorrow the following from its Athens correspondent, Mr. Henry Norman: "I have had an audience with King George. He spoke without much hope, but firmly, like a man who can only do his duty and leave the rest to heaven. More than once he said: 'If Greece had been a great power and walked into Crete long ago, her action would have been welcomed by the powers, as well as by the rest of the world, as a blessing. But she is only a small power, and seems unable to do anything that will satisfy the great powers.'"

A ROW AT GEORGE'S HOUSE.

Vienna, April 14.-The Tagblatt says today that sharp differences have arisen in the Greek royal family as to the propriety for the government to pursue. The crown princess, in defiance of her husband and of King George, has gone entirely over to the war party.

JOKE ON METAXAS.

Athens, April 14.-Colonel Metaxas, the Greek minister of war, received today a letter containing a mysterious substance, which subsequently proved to be gelatine. The first supposition was that it was the act of anarchists, but it now is believed to have been a practical joke.

It is stated there tonight that a strong bond has entered Macedonia near Kalamakia.

GERMAN ALLIES.

London, April 14.-The Athens correspondent of the Times will say tomorrow: Considerable comment is caused here by the news from Constantinople that General Gromoff, the well known German military tactician, is going to Ellassona to inspect the Turkish army, and that Admiral Kalay, of the German fleet, has gone to the Dardanelles to inspect the Turkish squadron and Bosphorus.

KEEFER FEELS HURT

AT LEAST, SUCH IS COMMITTEE-MAN GRIMES' VIEW.

Latter Named Gentleman, During the

Progress of the Boodle Investigation, Brings Out the Details of a Conversation

In Such a Way as to Make It Appear

That the Leavenworth Member Felt

Unfortunate Because the Telegraph and

Telephones Committee Finner Never "Approached" Him.

Topoka, Kan., April 14.-Representative H. A. Keefe of Leavenworth occupied much of the time of the legislative investigating committee today. Keefe had made broad charges of corruption, but showed a decided unwillingness to mention names or give other direct testimony. He had much to say of the committee on telegraph and telephones, which he was chairman, but his testimony in this direction showed principally the existence of ill-feeling between himself and a majority of his committee, which had resulted in the committee blocking all his efforts toward legislation.

When hard pressed for definite statements as to charges of corruption, made by him in public, Keefe stated that he had been approached by a man who wanted to buy his vote on the railroad bill. The man told him that others were getting money and that he was a fool if he did not go home "fixed." He could not remember the man's name.

Keefe said he had also been approached several times on the text book bill. R. W. Turner, secretary of the board of railroad commissioners, he said, had come to him twice. Turner made no definite offer to him.

Representatives Fairchild and Davis, and W. L. Brown of Kingman, came to him about school book legislation. He also had been told by State Senator Ed Carroll of Leavenworth that R. P. Waggoner had made the "brag" that he (Waggoner), as the head of the railroad lobby, had \$50,000 at his disposal to defeat railroad legislation.

Before Keefe concluded, Committee-man Grimes, by direct questioning, brought out the facts of a conversation between himself and Keefe, had during the session in which he made it appear that Keefe had told him that he believed the members of the telegraph committee had been "fixed" and that he was feeling put out because the telegraph people had not "seen him" also.

An adjournment was taken till April 27, to give time for the serving of a number of subpoenas for additional witnesses.

POP JUNKETERS IN AUSTIN.

Railroad Questions Are Liable to Be Settled Now in Short Order.

Austin, April 14.-The committees and sub-committees of the Kansas and Oklahoma legislatures respectively arrived in the city this morning and called on the legislature, the sub-committee coming from Galveston and the others from their homes direct. The committees are here to confer with the Texas legislature looking to a betterment of freight interests and increasing export shipments via Galveston. They will consult with the Texas railway commission and the Texas legislature with this object in view. They will also join the Texas commission in going before the interstate commerce commission, which meets here Friday, to adjust differences between St. Louis and state rates. Governor Leidy and ex-Governor Lewelling of Kansas are here. They took part in the conference and called on Governor Culberson.

NOT MEN BUT THE SYSTEM BLAMED.

Iowa Investigating Committee Report as to State Office.

Des Moines, Ia., April 14.-The house committee to investigate state officers, which has been working since February 8 and subpoenaed hundreds of witnesses, reported this afternoon to the house. The committee finds much extravagance in state officers in the employment of clerks and capital janitors, both in numbers and in salaries paid. The report charges extravagance by the executive council and recommends that its power to spend money be curtailed. Supplies have not been accurately accounted for and reform is demanded in this respect. The number of committee clerks should be reduced. The state census cost the state over \$125,000 and is very unreliable. Clerks were paid 50 per cent too much, and some, according to the report, were made to contribute to McFarland, the secretary of state, to buy their jobs. The state printer is freed from the charges of padding census reports. The charges are mainly against the system, not against individuals, who are said to have followed the letter of the law.

IT ALL FALLS ON JERRY.

Not Only to Run His Own Party, But the

Other Party.

Washington, April 14.-The Populist members of the house have decided to undertake the policy of forcing the Republicans to keep a quorum in the city. Without a quorum to carry motions to adjourn for three days it will be necessary for the house to meet every day. Representative Simpson says that the Populists had expected the Democrats, as the largest minority party, to insist upon a quorum, but as the Democrats are divided upon their policy the Populists will take the lead in opposing the majority. After an informal conference of the Populists, letters were sent to those of their own party who were absent from the city, urging them to return at once. There are twenty-two Populists in the house, and Mr. Simpson asserts that he expects enough Democrats will work with them to make an effective minority.

Speaker Reed is urging Republican members not to leave the city, and the number in the house today was unusually large for a time when the house practically is not in session.

WEALTH ON THE COKEY PLAN.

Hand-It-Around House Bill Introduced by a Kansas Pop.

Washington, April 14.-Representative Ridgely (Pop. Kan.) introduced in the house today a bill to enable the unemployed to earn a living, to utilize industry and produce general prosperity. His plan is much like the one advocated by "General" Coxey of Ohio. It authorizes each state, territory, county, city, town, village and school district to raise money by selling employment on public works by issuing non-interest bearing bonds of

SHATTUCK WILL TRY

OHIO CONGRESSMAN RUNS UP AGAINST THE COLOR LINE.

HE WOULD BREAK IT

BY NAMING A COLORED LAD FOR A NAVAL CADETSHIP.

ANNAPOLIS MEN MAY NOT LIKE IT

THEN JUST LET THEM RESIGN, HE SAYS, AND THEN SOME.

Seventy-Five Thousand Colored People in His District - Means to Stay by Bandy Till There's Good Skating.

Washington, April 14.-Congressman Shattuck of Ohio yesterday nominated D. J. Bundy, a colored lad of Cincinnati, to a cadetship at Annapolis. He has been urged to withdraw the name, but says he will stand by the appointment. There have been some murmurs of disapproval from the naval academy and threats of the students to resign.

"The boy earned the appointment fairly," said General Shattuck today. "There was a competitive examination, and two colored lads, one of them Bundy, outstripped their Caucasian competitors. One of them, however, proved to be over twenty and was therefore disqualified. I had told them that the competition was open to every eligible boy in my district. Bundy, who won, is one of the handsomest boys I ever saw. Yesterday I sent his name to the secretary of the navy, and he will be appointed. I have received no communication from the students at Annapolis on the subject, but several congressmen have told me that it was an unwritten law not to allow a colored boy at Annapolis. They told me that if I persisted it would lead up to the school, as other students would resign."

"Let them resign and be damned," I replied. "That boy earned his appointment fairly and I'm going to see that he goes to Annapolis and receive fair treatment if it is in my power to do so."

General Shattuck says if the lad is willing to subject himself to the humiliation he will naturally encounter at Annapolis he (Shattuck) will see him through. General Shattuck says that he has been informed that no colored boy ever took a degree at the naval academy.

General Shattuck says he has 75,000 negroes in his district.

DEMOCRACY IS DIVIDED.

Bundy's Leadership in the House Is Not a Settled Thing.

Washington, April 14.-The house was in session but ten minutes today and then adjourned until Saturday without transacting any business. The session was long enough, however, to furnish occasion to display a division among the Democratic members, which the caucus had not been able to heal. In this division Mr. De Armond of Missouri appeared as the leader of the opposition to the leadership of Mr. Bailey.

As soon as the journal had been read Mr. Dingley made a motion that when the house adjourned it be until Saturday. Mr. De Armond and Mr. Simpson immediately demanded a division. The vote on the motion was 123 to 88. Mr. Bailey and the following voted with the Republicans: Mr. De Armond and other Democrats and Populists opposed the motion. Many Democrats refrained from taking sides, while those who rose for the division seemed about equally divided on the question. Mr. De Armond, Mr. Terry of Arkansas and other Democrats tried to secure a yeas and nays vote but only thirty-one members supported the demand, which was a sufficient number. As soon as the house had adjourned the Democrats gathered in groups, discussing their policy with great earnestness.

CONFIRMED AND APPOINTED.

List of Those, Including Finley L. Soper, Who Capture Plums.

Washington, April 14.-The senate in executive session today confirmed Finley L. Soper of the Indian Territory, to be United States attorney for the Northern District of the Indian Territory, and L. O. C. Dunn, to be postmaster at Colorado Springs, Col.

Washington, April 14.-The president today sent the following nominations to the senate:

State-James R. Angell of Michigan, to be envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of the United States to Turkey; George N. West of the District of Columbia, to be consul of the United States at Pictou, Nova Scotia.

Treasury-John W. Cunningham of Idaho, to be assayer of the United States assay office at Boise City, Idaho.

Justice-Jasper P. Grady of the Indian Territory, to be marshal of the Central district in the Indian Territory.

Navy-Silvanus Brothers, special naval agents of the navy department at London, England.

War-George D. McKeljohn of Nebraska, to be assistant secretary of war; First Lieutenant E. H. Browne, Fourth infantry, to be captain; Second Lieutenant P. A. Wolfe, Third infantry, to be first lieutenant; Second Lieutenant J. B. Joyce, Fifth artillery, to be first lieutenant; Corporal George L. Brynildsen, First artillery, to be second lieutenant. To be commissaries of the District of Columbia-John R. Wight and John W. Ross.

PRYOR & HUME PAY UP.

Attorney General Guthrie Effects a Settle

ment With Them.

Chicago, O. T., April 14.-[Special.] -Attorney General Guthrie returned today from Arkansas City, where he effected a settlement with Pryor & Hume, Texas exiles who leave about fifty sections of school land in western Oklahoma for grazing purposes. By the terms of the settlement Pryor & Hume paid over a balance of \$200 due the school fund, and have transferred their lease to J. M. Dyer of Ashland, Kan. C. T. Harting and W. H. Carter of Woodward.

BULLETIN OF

The Wichita Daily Eagle.

Wichita, Thursday, April 15, 1897.

Weather for Wichita today: Fair; warmer; south winds.

Sun-Rises, 5:51; sets, 6:30. Moon-Waxing; rises, 4:05.

INDEX OF TODAY'S IMPORTANT NEWS.

1. Incendiary Fires in Kansas City War Prospects Never Better.

Grimes Cuts Capers With Keefe Colored Boy Named for Annapolis.

2. Omaha Seems Safe From Floods.

3. Mrs. Lease Talks About Boilers Senate's Test Vote on the Tariff Big Total of Stock Dealings.

4. Superintendent Nudge and His Plans Mrs. Roseberry Found Insane.

5. Spain's Latest Exhibition of Gall Honduras to Be Run by Yankees Tramp Found Burning to Death.

25. Twenty-five years, payable only to the United States, not to exceed half the assessed value of the state or municipality. In return for the bonds the treasury of the United States is to issue treasury notes.

CODIFYING IS FINISHED.

And So, Nearly, Is the Appropriation of the Pop Legislature.

Guthrie, O. T., April 14.-[Special.] -The clerical work of codifying the session laws of the Fourth legislative assembly and compiling the house and council journals was completed last night, which comprises the legal limit, under Attorney General Guthrie's decision, for the completion of the work. It was originally intended to allow the committee fifty days in which to absorb the \$3,400 appropriated by the legislature to defray the expense of codifying the session laws and compiling the journals, and it was quite annoying when the attorney general gave it as his opinion that under the organic act the work should be completed within thirty days. However, those in charge of the work labored hard to consume the entire appropriation, and were successful that but very little of the \$3,400 will be left to turn back into the territorial treasury. Two years ago the session laws and journals were codified and compiled at an expense amounting to \$3,000, the committee consuming ninety days in the performance of the work. This year, with a Demopop outfit in control and limited to thirty days in which to complete the work, the territorial treasurer has already issued warrants to the amount of \$2,411.50 and Secretary Lowe stated this morning in the auditor's office that vouchers for clerk hire approximating nearly \$1,000 were still outstanding. If this be true, the present committee has succeeded in accomplishing within thirty days that which required all the ingenuity of the committee two years ago ninety days to perform-the absorption of the legislative appropriation. Below appears a list of the beneficiaries of this particular appropriation and the amount received by each with a number of vouchers still to be presented and allowed, which will swell the total to an aggregate of about \$3,400.

Name. Stella Wisby ..... \$ 2.00

Lurella Graupner ..... 12.00

L. E. Walker ..... 104.00

C. C. Hudson ..... 104.00

Orna Barham ..... 40.00

John Baggett ..... 120.00

J. F. Smith ..... 96.00

J. W. McMurtry ..... 48.00

W. H. Taylor ..... 48.00

J. D. Maurice ..... 92.00

J. R. Jacobs ..... 96.00

W. D. Baggett ..... 100.00

Joseph Foucart ..... 3.50

J. R. Towner ..... 48.00

J. L. Hammers ..... 104.00

Ada Melton ..... 20.00

Minnie Miller ..... 48.00

O. C. Blakeney ..... 84.00

J. S. Ross ..... 188.00

A. M. Mackenzie ..... 12.00

Wm. Whitworth ..... 108.00

J. E. Tinsley ..... 112.00

John Hagan ..... 116.00

T. H. Doyle ..... 76.00

John D. De Boe ..... 120.00

Albino Stevens ..... 15.00

Paul F. Mackey ..... 112.00

Mrs. C. P. Rich ..... 24.00

Clarence Rich ..... 12.00

C. W. Gould ..... 80.00

J. C. Balmer ..... 36.00

M. McReynolds ..... 24.00

Blockie Jamison ..... 28.00

Wm. Stucker ..... 12.00

Mattie Phoenix ..... 30.00

H. C. Olds ..... 20.00

Total ..... \$2411.50

With the above list as an index it does not require deep penetrations to understand how a pay roll may be stuffed to represent a legislative appropriation. Each person whose name appears above drew pay at the rate of \$4 per day while employed, and in the list of beneficiaries is the name of a 15-year old lad and two 15-year old youths; Paul Mackey, son of Chief Clerk Mackey, who had charge of completion of the council journal, is down for \$12, while nominally in attendance at the Edmund normal school; J. C. Estuary, a free silver worker of Perry, owes a warrant for \$56, and boards that he put in an appearance on two occasions; Bob McHoyden, once a shining light in Dick Reeves, the praying station keeper's free silver outfit, returned from a pleasure jaunt in Texas, the expense of which is reimbursed by warrants for \$2,400 on the territorial treasury. It is related that McReynolds reported to D. S. Ross, stating that he was on the pay roll and wanted to be assigned to some duty. Accordingly, Mr. Ross put him to work indexing, but the confinement was evidently unbecoming on Mr. Ross's nerves, and with the statement that he would return in a short time he left the committee room and has not been seen since by Mr. Ross. The foregoing items are merely specimens of what might develop if the list were investigated further.

Washington, April 14.-In view of the very satisfactory term of American armory plate heretofore sent to Russia, the Russian ambassador has asked the Carnegie school district to raise money to equip a group for furnishing armor plate for two large battleships.